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HOLLYWOOD

May all the blessings of Christmas be yours in this glad season and in all the days to come. This is my Christmas wish to the editor and his staff and all the Times-Virginian readers.

O holy child of Bethlehem
Decend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.

Mr. and Mrs. George Inge of Chester, Virginia were visitors Friday of their sister, Mrs. Virgie Beasley at the Martin-Wooldridge Home.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnie Pickeral called in the home of Mrs. Mary Bagby Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Whit Woodall and Mr. Leslie Goin were visitors in this home last week.

We are very sorry Mr. George Jennings and Mr. Francis O'Brien remains ill. Our prayers are with each of them and their loved ones.

Mr. Gus Torrence is recuperating at the home of his son in law and daugher, Mr. and Mrs. Abbott Coleman. We pray he may continue to improve. Among those visiting him last week were Mr. H. W. Jenkins and Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Webb and family.

Mr. Howard and Elmo Smith, Jodie Kendrick, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Almond, Mr. and Mrs. L H. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Franklin and Mrs. M. L. Covington visited Mrs. Mary Bagby Friday.

Mr. H. W. Jenkins went to see his mother Mrs. Addie Jenkins and sister, Mrs. Ber Abbitt at the Liberty House in Lynchburg Saturday. he called in the home of his son, Mr. Bob Jenkins and family and was a luncheon guest Saturday of Mr. and Mrs. Twyman Baldwin. He was a supper guest last week of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Webb.

We were very sorry to hear of the illness of Mrs. Leslie Coleman. We pray she may soon be feeling better. She is a patient in the Lynchburg General Hospital.

We were very sorry to hear Mrs. Kenneth Deaners, father Mr. W. G. Mayberry of Lynchburg is ill in the hospital. We wish him a very speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Davis returned home Sunday after spending a week's vacation in the Virgin Islands. They reported a most delightful time there.

Mr. Kenneth Wingfield spent the week end in Appomattox visiting friends and relatives.

The families of the late Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Turns celebrated their annual Christmas party Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Gilliam of Farmville.

We are very sorry to hear Mrs. Beulah Morris isn't too well. We pray she may soon feel better. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Woodson visited in this home Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Webb, Joyce, and Odell Webb were visitors of Mrs. Morris and family Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Franklin and family visited Mr. Franklin's mother, Mrs. Mattie C. Franklin at the Medical Care Center in Lynchburg, Sunday.

Mrs. Walker Woodall, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Wilson and Steve Wilson were supper guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wingfield and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Easley of Woodbridge, Va. visited Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Jenkins Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Webb and Mr. and Mrs. Scott Sheets visited Miss Nannie Webb and Miss Maggie Branch in the Jamerson Nursing Home and Mrs. Virgie Beasley in the Martin-Wooldridge Nursing Home Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. J. L. Torrence and Miss Shelia Torrence spent Thursday with Mrs. W. T. Covington. Mrs. Russell Conner and Mrs. M. L. Covington visited in this home Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Webb, Joyce and Odell Webb called in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Carwile Sunday.

Mr. Grover Beasley, Jr. visited his mother Mrs. Virgie Beasley Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Walker Woodall and Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Wilson and son, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wingfield, Mrs. Delorious Deaner and Mr. Alfred Almond called in the home of Mrs. Mary Bagby Sunday.

Everybody enjoyed a wonderful Christmas program at Hollywood Church Sunday night and the social hour afterwards. Our thanks to the program and refreshments committees and each of the ones on the program for a delightful evening.

May you have joy
in the mad rush of
preparation,
May you know peace
in the tiny margins
of time around
the busy days,
May you have star-shine
in the clear night skies
for looking at;
May you have silence
Now and then;
and above all-
beyond all else-
May you have love
to give
and to receive

Copied-

GET INVOLVED—If you see an intersection that needs a new traffic light, write a letter to an appropriate official.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Thanks so much for your support and patronage. We hope to continue serving you in the future. The best wishes of the season to all of our friends.

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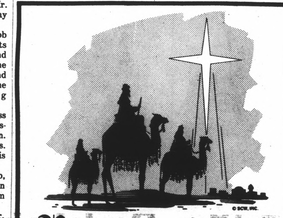

Peace on Earth

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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The Pastor Speaks

Tarnished Love

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. -John 3:16.

This text is so well known that it runs the risk of too familiar. The point that needs our deep concern is Love. Can you think of a word that has been beaten around and abused as this word has? We are under obligation to clarify this word. Let us look at the untarnished word Love.

This Love is ultimate. God is seen in this. God is not seen in biased terminology that shadows ultimate love. Many are confused by the word "Grace." Let us remember that love is not subordinate to anything, and that grace when used properly is just another word for love.

This love is inclusive. Some one asked how mankind before Christ could ever share in this love and its promises. The answer is very simple. No one has ever been before Christ. In a period of time God manifested himself completely in Christ. However, Christ was in the beginning. This inclusive love is not confined to time, neither is it confined to any selected group of people, it is inclusive. Love does not divide itself.

This love must not be confused with "tarnished love." We are living under one of the darkest, sinful clouds civilization has ever experienced. What is the greatest underlying cause? The love of God has been sacrificed upon the altar of Godless emotions. Individuals, society, and nations are controlled by emotion. The world uses this approach. Witness the type of our entertainment, dirty movies, dirty books, dirty magazines, and much more. God is love, and when man tarnishes and pollutes this love he destroys his soul, and becomes accountable for the desperate condition of our low level of morality. This word covers unnumbered disloyalties to God. What shall we do? The answer is, DARE to live like Christ in a world like this.

Floyd M. Lucas,
The United Methodist Church

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

WHEN ARE "THE LATTER DAYS"?

Lesson for December 25, 1977

Background Scripture:
Micah 2:1-12
Micah 4 through 5
Devotional Reading:
Micah 7:14-20

Rev. Althouse

The Old Testament prophets spoke of a better day to come, a day when God would save his people and fulfill his covenant with Israel. The prophet Micah proclaimed:

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains...and people shall flow to it... (4:1)

"In the latter days..."

It was a wonderful prophecy, but there was still one problem: When would these "latter days" come to be? The prophets gave clues of various kinds, but no certain answer. Thus, when Jesus was born in Bethlehem centuries later there was no precise way of proving that the time of fulfillment of the promise was at hand. Christian writers and apostles later reflecting upon the birth of Jesus were convinced that in his birth the promise was fulfilled. Paul, writing to the Galatians, says: "...when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman..." (4:4)

So Christmas is a celebration of the keeping of God's promise that had been long cherished by the people of Israel who walked and endured in the strength of it. The prophet Micah had seen the little town of Bethlehem as the focus of that fulfillment:

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days (Micah 5:2)

Until the time

Micah painted a picture of hope, forseeing a time when men would "beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks," when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree..." (4:3,4)

Yet, although Jesus has certainly come, it is also obvious that the times Micah forsaw have not. This is why, for some, Christmas is a time of depression for, despite its pretensions, the season of Christmas may seem an empty, false celebration. Christmas "cheer" may hardly last for the day and the brief "Peace on earth" goodwill is soon replaced by "business-as-usual." When, then, are those "latter days" people have looked and longed for? Have they come or are they still to come?

The answer, I believe, is that in Jesus we see the vision of the fulfillment that began in his incarnation and continues until all persons accept the "Good News" of Jesus Christ and permit God to fully live in them. Christmas is a time when we climb up to the mountaintop to view the Promised Land of God's Kingdom which lies before mankind in "the latter days" when what was begun in Bethlehem will have been completed.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Pine Cone Tree

A giant pine cone can be turned into the world's smallest Christmas tree. Just mount an 8-12 inch pine cone on a piece of plastic foam, decorate as you would a tree but with sequins and glitter glued on the cone edges. Top off with a star.

Holiday On Ice

Make festive ice cubes by placing a cherry or other small fruit in each ice tray compartment.

Both children and adults will enjoy watching the ice melt and eating the resulting fruit in this unusual way.

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From all the people at WILBUN'S . . . We wish you a very Merry, Merry Christmas.

We invite you to come in and see our selection of Christmas Candy - Hard Candy, 100 Percent Brilliant Mix, Chocolate Drops, Candy Canes. We have Nuts in the Shells, Mixed Nuts, Walnuts, Brazil, Filberts. We have Fresh Hams, Fruited Hams, Canned Hams, Smoked Hams, Fresh Turkeys, Frozen Turkeys, Turkey Breast, Turkey Stuffing. We Have Oranges, Apples, Tangerines, Grapefruit, Grapes. We have Christmas Cups, Plates - ALL CHRISTMAS SUPPLIES.

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